



## RENTON MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

October 4, 2016

Renton City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor –Conference Center

### **Members Present:**

Marsha Rollinger, Mitch Shepherd, Jerri Everett, Bill Huls, Paul Hebron, Ben Andrews, Neil Sheesley, Samantha Goetz-Granquist, Aaron Blalack, and Evelyn Reingold

**Excused Absence:** Adrienne LaFaye, Mary Clymer, and Kimberly Eshelman

**Staff Present:** Elizabeth Higgins, RMAC Staff Liaison; Chip Vincent, Administrator, Jennifer Henning, Planning Director, and John Collum, Project Manager, City of Renton Department of Community and Economic Development; and Liz Stewart, Renton History Museum

**Guests Present:** Carol Ann Witschi, Renton City Council and Drama Kids; South Renton Connection (SRC) - Bruce McIntyre, Barb Mandic, Jeff Dineen, and Betsy Prather; Studio OHM – Yousman Okano, Plamena Milosheva and Brianna Holan; and Virginia Merrill, City of Renton Downtown Partnership

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by RMAC - Chair, Marsha Rollinger at 6:03 pm.

### **Guest Presentations and Reports:**

**\*Renton History Museum** - Liz Stewart reported that the Renton History Museum's "Time Machine" exhibition, curated by UW Exhibit Design Student Intern, Amy Elizabeth Gorton, will open on November 8, 2016 with a public reception on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. The collaborative exhibit will feature artwork from the City of Renton's Art Collection and objects from the Renton Historical Museum's permanent collection. RMAC members are invited to attend.

**\*2<sup>nd</sup> and Main Project** – Studio OHM presented a revised "Gateway to Downtown" design concept with an interactive infinity loop sculpture (Möbius). The design is intended to engage the public with dynamic lighting and apps for on-site involvement. The RMAC committee and the Studio OHM artists will work closely with affected Renton City departments to minimize potential design issues. **MSC (Bill/Sam)** - The RMAC committee will move forward with Studio OHM and the City of Renton's Design Process.

**\*Renton Downtown Pop-up** – John Collum reported that Pop-up event was a huge success. He gave personal thanks to the work and participation of the RMAC, Arts Unlimited, and the Owl Project for all the efforts made for this event. The RMAC Parklet space in front of the Cortona Building (former Western Wear Building) won First Place! Our inviting tables and benches allowed visitors to color and hang their art.

**\*Downtown Holiday Event** - Virginia Merrill reported that the Downtown Partnership will start the annual holiday event on Small Business Saturday, November 26, 2016. The Tree Lighting event/holiday season will be enhanced by filling vacant storefronts with lighted winter holiday themed artwork. Artists chosen will receive a small stipend based on assigned storefront space. **MSC (Ben/Mitch)** – The amount of \$250 will be allocated to the Downtown Partnership for RMAC sponsorship of the Downtown Holiday and Tree Lighting Event.

**\*South Renton Connection** – The Art-Cultural Project Committee members announced that they have

requested Mayor Law to release and earmark the Eastside Interceptor Mitigation Fund that was assigned to the South Renton neighborhood. The funds will be used in 2017 for a significant piece of Public Art to acknowledge the contributions of this historic neighborhood. The committee has been working with RMAC staff, Elizabeth Higgins, and the RMAC will be involved as necessary to help fulfill their mission.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the September 6, 2016 RMAC meeting were read and accepted. **MSC (Mitch/Neil)**

**Budget Update:**

**\*2016 Unexpended funds** - According to our current budget, we will potentially have funds that will not be spent by yearend. Chip will assure that any unspent funds will be carried over for next year.

**\*Owl Project** – The cost of the Owl Project Pop-up Activity for wood panels, paints and brushes was \$350. People of all ages painted the panels and it was a successful galvanizing art activity. **MSC (Ben/Bill)** An allocation of \$350 will be made to the Owl Project for the wood panels and art supplies used at the Renton Downtown Pop-up Event.

**New Business:**

**\*Lodging Tax Advisory Committee** – It was announced by Cliff Long, Director, City of Renton Economic Development Department, that a position on the committee is available to a member of the RMAC. Both Mitch and Aaron expressed interest in the position. It was determined that Mitch be the designated member and that Aaron be the backup so there will always be a RMAC member in attendance at the quarterly meetings.

**\*Advance /Strategic Meeting** – Tentatively scheduled for January 2017.

**Old Business:**

**\*The Muybridge” (Bridge on Williams Ave South over the Cedar River)** – The bridge is one-way, headed into downtown from the North. This installation of individual panels that feature the work of famed photographer, Eadweard Muybridge’s “The Horse in Motion” photo series is complete. Each panel is part of an “animation” that makes it seem as if the horse and rider are galloping across the bridge as you drive. Many thanks to Marsha Rollinger for this amazing RMAC Art Project.

**\*Renton School District** - A meeting with representatives from the Renton School District has been scheduled for October 31, 2016 by Elizabeth. RMAC members Sam, Aaron, Mitch and Evelyn will attend.

**\* Band Concert** - The “Lost Dogma Band” will be the playing in concert on Saturday, November 12, 2016 at the Renton Civic Theater. This RMAC project will be presented by Neil and Bill.

**Correspondence and announcements:** The correspondence and event folders were circulated for individual review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Evelyn Reingold,  
RMAC Secretary

Marsha Rollinger,  
Chair

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